

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Yugoslavia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Yugoslav Relations with the West	DATE DISTR.	19 August 1955 25X1
		NO. OF PAGES	3
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	
DATE ACQUIRED		This is UNEVALUATED Information	

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1. Although the private views of the top-level Yugoslav leaders are not known, several members of the Central Committee of the Federation of Communists of Yugoslavia (FCY) who usually fairly accurately reflect the official Party line, believe that Yugoslavia will maintain good relations with the West for a long time.
2. Yugoslavia bases its foreign policy on the premise that, in order to serve the cause of peace, Yugoslavia must maintain good relations with all countries. There are two main reasons why Yugoslavia is eager to have good relations with the U.S.
 - a. The Yugoslav regime is aware that the majority of the populace is against it. The present opposition is not organized and apparently not supported by any Western power, and thus is not dangerous. The breaking of relations with the U.S. and the West generally would very probably be interpreted by the Yugoslav opposition ("reactionaries") as an indication that the U.S. and the West had decided to act against Tito and his regime. It is impossible to foresee what would be the reaction of the opposition, but it is generally believed there would be much trouble.
 - b. Yugoslavia receives substantial economic aid from the U.S. and the regime is certain that the U.S. has the financial capability of extending this aid for a long period of time. The discontinuation of American economic aid in the present Yugoslav economic situation would be a disaster because the Yugoslav standard of living can hardly be lowered without the populace showing open discontent.

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4. The official Yugoslav attitude regarding relations with the U.S. is that everything depends on the attitude of the U.S. If economic aid to Yugoslavia is offered under unacceptable conditions, Tito will be forced to maneuver and be insincere. Unacceptable conditions would be anything that could be interpreted as interference in Yugoslav domestic affairs. This would include even a request for evidence that the aid funds were invested or spent for the purposes for which they were given.
5. The majority of Yugoslav leaders are critical of the U.S. The present campaign against the Western influence in the ideological and cultural fields is indicative of this attitude of the leadership toward the West. This campaign, which is only a few months old thus far, has not assumed a form of open propaganda against the West. The basic Party instruction for this campaign is: Foreign policy is just a policy, but when it is a question of internal social systems, there is not a better one than ours.
6. There is no doubt that there are many Yugoslav government officials who view Western culture and civilization with favor because of their own educational background. But such ideas and feelings everyone carefully keeps to himself. The majority of pro-Western oriented officials are intellectuals who have lived for a long period of time in the Western world.
7. Yugoslav press criticism of the West is at least in part a facade maintained for public and Party consumption and, in general, is correlative with the drop in the Yugoslav standard of living. This type of criticism is intended to paralyze internal discontent.

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